



TOWN OF MANSFIELD

OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Patricia Michalak, MA
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

YSB Advisory Minutes
March 10th, 2015
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall
Conf. Rm. B

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Pat Schneider, Director of Human Services
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
Makayla Lamson, E.O Smith Student Representative
Larry Barlow, MMS Assistant Principal
Eileen Griffin, LCSW
Sara Anderson, Early Childhood Coordinator
Curt Vincente, Parks and Rec Director
Jared Redmond, Mansfield Recreation Coordinator

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by Ethel Mantzaris.

II. Approval of minutes

- 2/09/15

III. Reports

- Director's Report – Patricia Schneider
 - Youth Service grants are in jeopardy because of the Governors proposed grant cuts.
- Jared Redmond – The Teen Center attendance is up. The staff is trying to start a Rec Leader Program to gather teens to help create new events and activities for the center. There are also some thoughts about creating trips for small groups of teen.
- Coordinator's Report – Patricia Michalak
 - **Mommy & Me:** Program has been working out well using both the teen center and the gym which is already set up with at that time for a toddler open gym time. Sara Anderson our early childhood coordinator will attend some of the sessions to offer music enrichment

- **Intern Interviews:** We have interviewed two Eastern BSW students for possible placement with YSB next academic year. Both seem to be good candidates.
- **After school Group:** We have of been offering an after school social skills group for middle school students Tuesdays. The number of participants has been growing. Our intern from Uconn Human Development and Family studies has been assisting with activities.
- **PAWS Conference:** Mansfield 8th grade students, who are also participating in our Big Friend's program, will attend the Paws conference. This is our first time we are partnering with the senior center to assist us with transportation. Their driver will be driving us in the town van. This will be a cost savings for YSB.
- **UConn Community Outreach training:** Kate Bohannon was invited by UCONN Community Outreach to provide training on "developing mentoring relationships". The training was well received and we were happy to be able to help them given all of the support they have offered YSB.
- **Cope:** Developing programming for 4th graders in the Cope Program to further support them in their transition to the middle school.
- **Women in Transition Group:** Group of women was instrumental in assisting a family in crisis.
- **Communications Consultant:** We had a kick-off meeting with Signature Brand Factory for development of our website. A lot of good ideas were shared with the web designers addressing MACs needs.
- **School Readiness Grant:** Beginning work on grant for fiscal year 2016
- **School Readiness:** Two new School Readiness slots have been added. We are now providing subsidized preschool for 18 children in Mansfield.

IV. Old Business:

- Collaboration with Area Association for Religious Communities: Youth Services is meeting with the group on March 17th.

V. New Business:

- Play Ground Update: The town passed a grant for the playground.
- Big Friends: The Program is working well at the Town Hall with teens also having the opportunity to go to the Community Center.

VI. Other:

- Volunteer Recognition-April 28th

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:45 April 14th, 2015 is the next meeting.